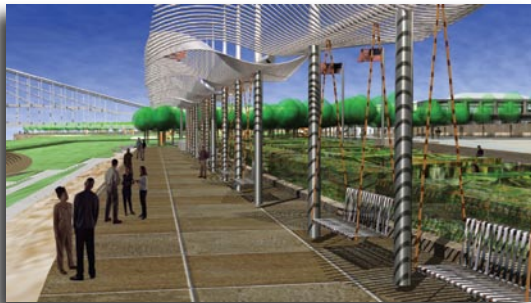


# *Cincinnati Riverfront Park*



## *Return to Our River Heritage!*

**Cincinnati Riverfront Park—the new “front yard” for the City—will reconnect the downtown to its river, while providing a spectacular new park resource for the region. It will become the preferred venue for major events and festivals, a place to recreate and experience the river, and the perfect setting for the proposed mixed-use development called The Banks. It will become a desired destination for tourists, businesses and new downtown residents. It is— in so many ways—a glorious, triumphant return to our river heritage!**

Cincinnati Riverfront Park will feature over 40 acres of parkland along the Ohio River between Broadway and Central Avenue. It will include playgrounds, boat docks, a Great Lawn, spaces for festivals and community events like Oktoberfest, Taste of Cincinnati and Riverfest, a carousel, gardens, a bike trail, walkways, tree groves, a river edge promenade with over-sized “porch” swings, , dramatic water features such as water jets, cascades, pools and waterfalls with grand stairs, restaurants and cafes.

The park will tie into the chain of existing riverfront parks east of the site (Bicentennial Commons and Sawyer Point), forming an almost 3-mile long corridor of public spaces along the river. It is a grand, new setting for the region’s beloved Roebling Suspension Bridge.

Sasaki Associates, a world-renowned landscape architecture firm, created the design plans for Cincinnati Riverfront Park. Their work was inspired by the input of citizen stake-holders at a series of public meetings and focus groups that began in 1998. These design plans are consistent with the Master Plan—approved in 1999 by the City, County, Planning Commission, Park Board and the Urban Design Review Board— which was created by Hargreaves Associates.

In a study conducted by the National Recreation and Park Association, the community benefits of well-constructed and maintained parks and open spaces were assessed. The study revealed that communities with outstanding parks and greenspaces experience increased economic development in the form of heightened tourism, more business and residential growth, and enhanced real-estate values. Other benefits include a decrease in youth crime and better opportunities to achieve optimal physical and emotional health.

(Even a short visit to a park can relieve the tensions brought on by modern life!)

# *Cincinnati Riverfront Park*

## *Return to Our River Heritage!*

### **BUILDING A “DESTINATION” PARK**

The Cincinnati Park Board is leading efforts to construct Cincinnati Riverfront Park. A substantial share of park funding is targeted to come from Federal sources along with State, City and private support.

- Congress has authorized the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to design the Park, and to date, Congress has appropriated \$3 million for design and planning. The funding plan calls for the Federal government ultimately to contribute up to \$50 million for construction over the life of the project.
- Parks has already received \$3.5 million from the City and the State for design and planning.
- The City has applied for \$8 million of Federal funds and \$2 million in State funding for 2007 toward the first phases of park construction
- Parks has received an initial \$1 million private donations and the Cincinnati Parks Foundation will lead the effort to raise additional private funds

The cost to construct Cincinnati Riverfront Park—per the approved 1999 Master Plan—is \$66 million. The dynamic features planned for the park are “people-attractors”—and attractive to prospective private donors as well. These features are designed to be uniquely about Cincinnati. Their quality and uniqueness account for a portion of the cost of the park. Another factor contributing to the total cost is having to build the park along the Ohio riverbank—which is subject to flooding and erosion—while providing easy and direct access to the river from downtown and the proposed Banks development. This requires retaining walls, steps and ramps to bring people safely down to the river’s edge—a difference in elevation of 52 feet from Ted Berry Way to the water! This infrastructure will be built to withstand flooding and river erosion, while providing access for boat landings along the newly built edge.

Once completed, the annual operation of the Park is estimated to be \$1.2 million, which will be offset by revenues generated by the park’s restaurants, retail kiosks, parking revenues, events, concessions, and modest levels of tax support and private endowment support.

The design of the park was inspired by the input of citizens and numerous stakeholders which was gathered at a series of public meetings, stakeholder group meetings and focus groups that began in 1998.

### *Cost for Cincinnati Riverfront Park Well Within National Averages*

Overall, the cost to construct Cincinnati Riverfront Park is comparable to or less than other major waterfront parks around the country.

**Cincinnati Riverfront Park: Approximately \$2.5 million/acre**

**Theodore Berry International Friendship Park (2001-2005): \$1.5 million/acre\***

**Yeatman’s Cove Tall Stacks Venue Improvements (1994): \$1.8 million/acre\***

**Louisville Waterfront Park (1997-1999): \$1.4 million/acre\***

**Charleston, South Carolina Waterfront Park Project (1990): \$3.05 million /acre\***

**Capital City Landing, Indianapolis (1998): \$3.55 million/acre\***

**Chicago Millennium Park (1999-2004): \$17.6 million/acre\***

\*2006 construction cost using 3.5% annual inflation rate

# *Cincinnati Riverfront Park*

## *Return to Our River Heritage!*

### THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF A “DESTINATION” PARK

#### *Cincinnati Riverfront Park- Projected Economic Benefits*

Communities that invest in “destination” parks like Cincinnati Riverfront Park realize many economic benefits including business & residential growth, increased real estate values and heightened tourism.

#### **CONNECTIONS**

- Park easily accessed by downtown workers, hotel guests, convention visitors and residents, waterfront park visitors, visitors to sports venues and general commuters

#### **DESTINATION ATTRACTIONS**

- Children’s Playgrounds and carousel
- Main Street Garden with family porch swings
- Signature water features including pools, cascades and waterfalls
- Venues for major events and festivals
- Boat access
- Walking paths, promenades and bike trails
- Tree groves and picnic areas
- Park restaurants and cafes

**GATHERING PLACES** for downtown workers, visitors, tourists, convention-goers and residential and retail users.

#### **INCREASED SPENDING**

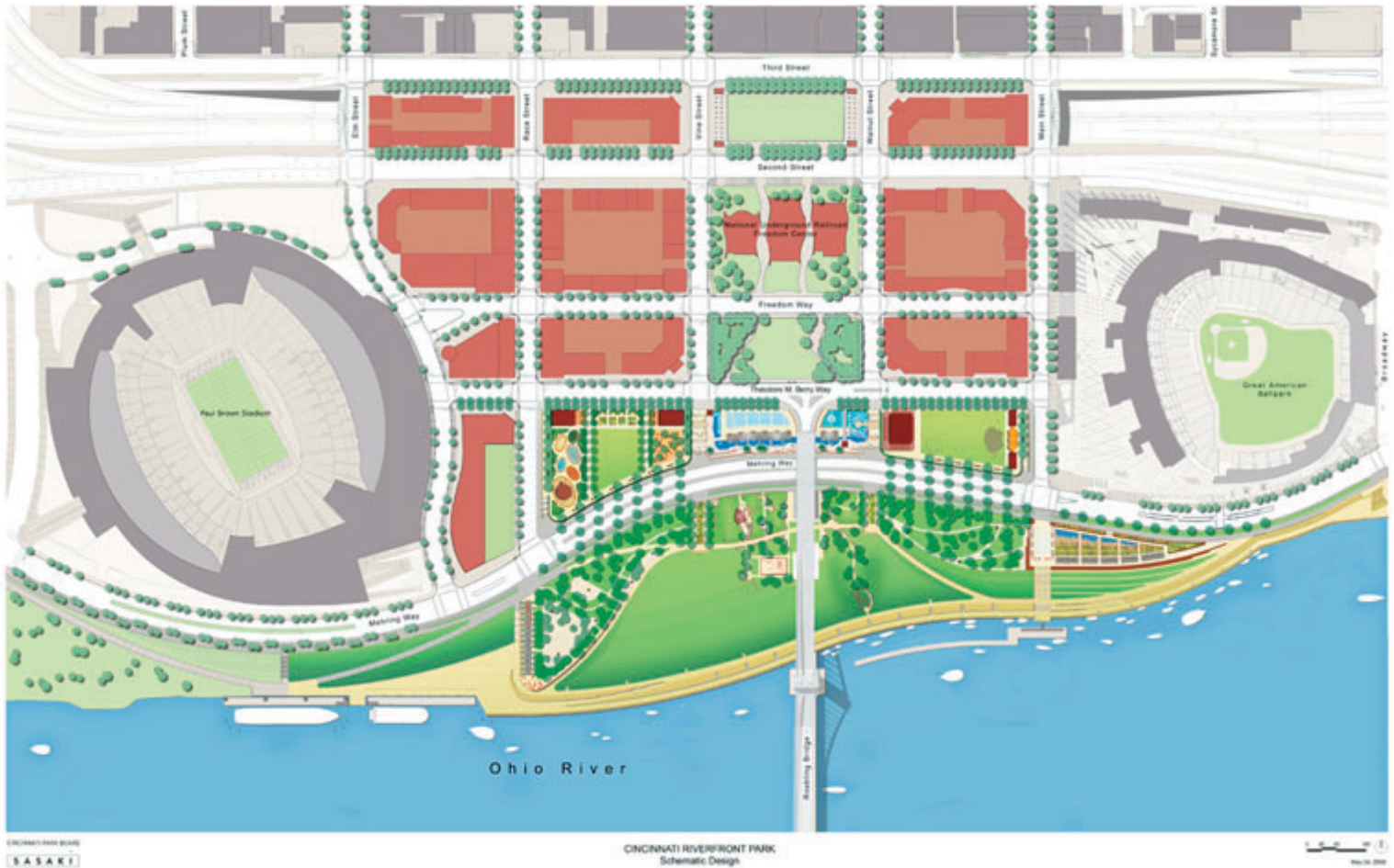
- Increase in number of visitors into the riverfront area resulting in an increase in local spending

#### **EVENTS**

- Expanded and enhanced venue for existing riverfront events such as Riverfest and Tall Stacks.
- Potential new home for existing downtown events such as Taste of Cincinnati and Oktoberfest.
- Venue for additional events and festivals
- Potential expansion in length of events and number of attendees

# CINCINNATI RIVERFRONT PARK

*Return to Our River Heritage!*



2006 Site Plan Within District Context

# CINCINNATI RIVERFRONT PARK

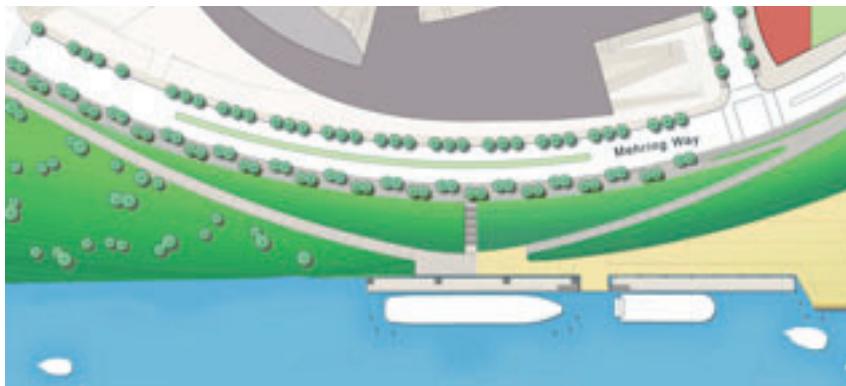
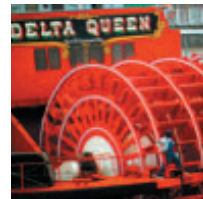
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2006 Site Plan Features

# CINCINNATI RIVERFRONT PARK

*Return to Our River Heritage!*



River Wharf Area

# CINCINNATI RIVERFRONT PARK

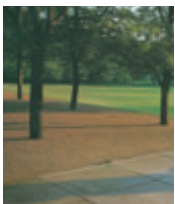
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River Promenade

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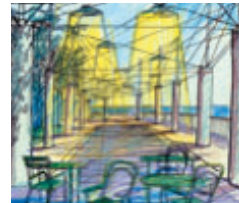
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Tree Groves West and East

# CINCINNATI RIVERFRONT PARK

*Return to Our River Heritage!*



Race Street Promenade

# CINCINNATI RIVERFRONT PARK

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Roebling Green

# CINCINNATI RIVERFRONT PARK

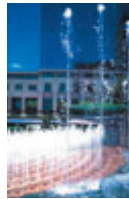
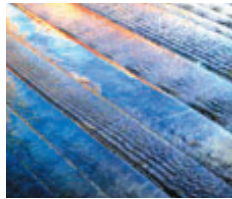
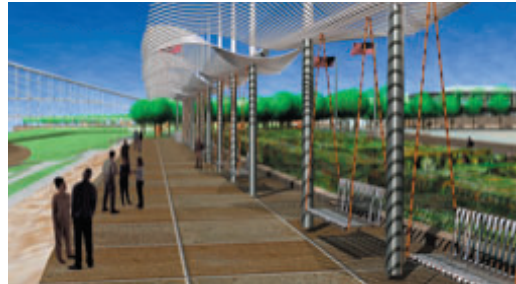
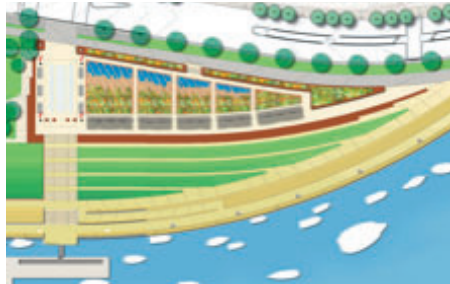
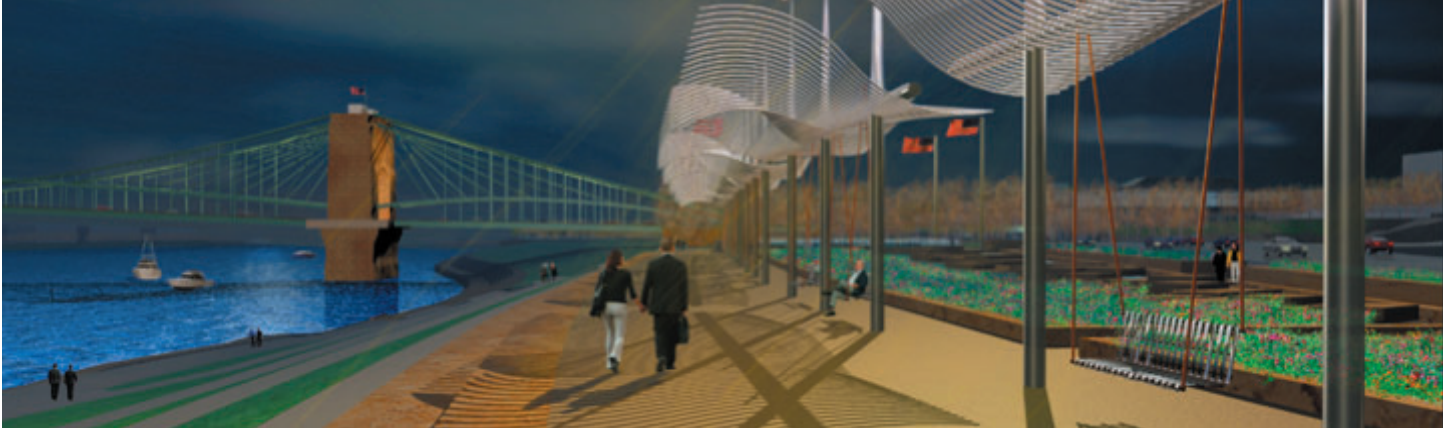
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Children's Adventure Play and Historic Cincinnati Artifacts

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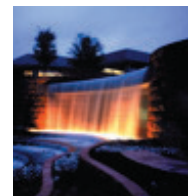
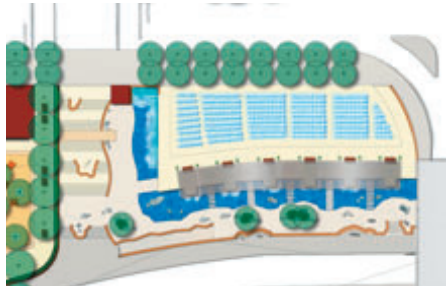
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Main Street Fountain and River Terrace Garden

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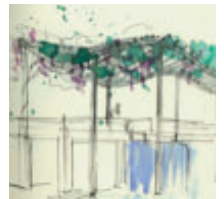
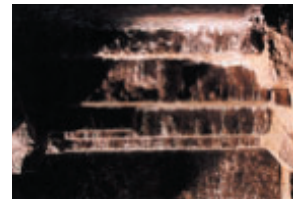
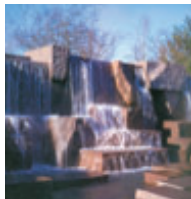
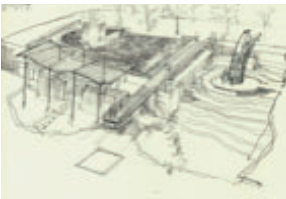
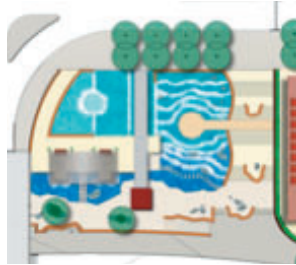
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Vine Street Fountain and Grand Stair

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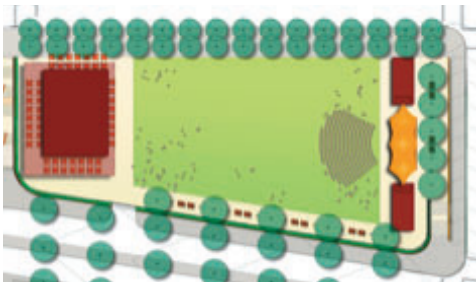
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Walnut Street Fountain and Grand Stair

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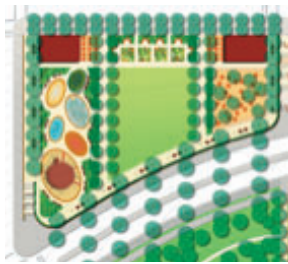
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Walnut Street Event Lawn

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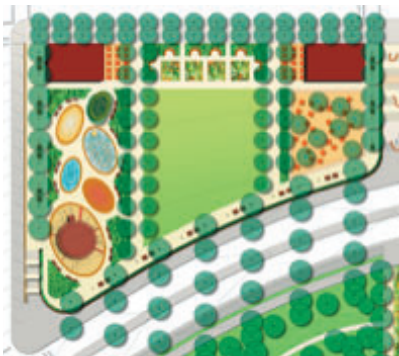
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Vine Street Event Lawn and Gardens

# CINCINNATI RIVERFRONT PARK

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Seven Hills Children's Play Area

# CINCINNATI RIVERFRONT PARK

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Please email your comments about the Park to [Steven.Schuckman@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:Steven.Schuckman@cincinnati-oh.gov)